

5-20-1915

Letter from Eleanor Blair, Wellesley, Massachusetts,
to Mr. D.C. Blair, Montour Falls, New York, 1915
May 20

Eleanor Blair

Wellesley College Archives

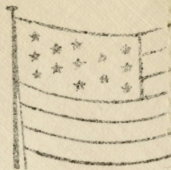
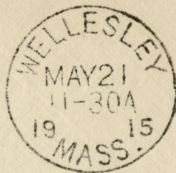
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Recommended Citation

Blair, Eleanor and Wellesley College Archives, "Letter from Eleanor Blair, Wellesley, Massachusetts, to Mr. D.C. Blair, Montour Falls, New York, 1915 May 20" (1915). *Eleanor Blair letters (6C1917)*. 139.
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5/20/15✓



Mr. D. C. Blair
Montour Falls
New York.

Fiske Cottage,
Wellesley, Mass.,
20 May, 1915.

Dearest family,

Well, if there ever was a lucky mortal,
I am one. I have just had another
offer made me even better than
the original Treasure Island offer.

When I came out from Lit. class
this afternoon, Miss Streibert was
waiting for me - said she wanted to
see me for a few minutes. You
remember I told you that Mary
Torrence, our next year's C. A. president,

is to be at T. I. all summer to manage
the house, oversee the domestic work,
plan the meals, etc. Well, Mary
is going to Silver Bay so cannot
get to T. I. until the first of July.

Katherine Calderston was to take
Mary's place for the last two weeks
in June, but now K. B. has been chosen
class delegate to Silver Bay. The long
and the short of it is, that Miss
Streibert has asked me if I would
consider taking the job until Mary
gets there. Now laugh, Mutter, I
know you are already, and it isn't
one bit polite of you. No, the camp
people won't need to insure their
lives, for I wouldn't have the means
to plan. Miss Streibert's sister would
do that. My job would be to see that
the house work goes smoothly, and

be on hand just before and just^{2.}
after meals. Miss D. says that I
can do it if I am at all used to a
kitchen - says Mary had no experience
before she went there, but got along
finely. The women and children
are there in June instead of the girls.
The women do all the work but
the cooking. My work is to keep
things going all right, also keep the
house accounts, and take the
responsibility for the house in general.
Miss D. says that I would just have
to use my common sense - see that
no butter is thrown away after meals,
know when a dish is really clean, etc.
I told her I that I could answer to
both those qualifications.

What do you think? I felt pretty
much pleased that Miss D. should pick

me out of the whole bunch that is planning to go to I.O. She said she looked over all the list, and decided I was the best one for the place. Of course there is more responsibility than if I went just to entertain. But it is just that which appeals to me. I know it would be wonderful training. And I would have lots of time for bathing, boating, etc. Moreover, it may help me to go some other year, or even help me if I tried for another job somewhere else. All such training helps. And, oh yes! Mary is paid \$40.00 a month, so I would get \$20.00 in the bargain.

But here is the difficulty. I told Miss D. my family seemed to be getting awfully anxious for me to get home. As commencement comes on

the 15th and I should be at T. I.
 by the 19th, if I stay to Commencement
 I wouldn't have time to come home
 first. That would mean that I wouldn't
 get home until the first of July.
 Of course I wouldn't be away from
 home any longer, but I wouldn't see the
 Blairs so soon - and I'm getting
 mighty anxious to get a look at them.

I shot the question over carefully
 while I was in philosophy conference -
 when I should have been listening to
 Herr Löwenberg - and decided that if you
 think I better come home first, I will be
 willing to omit Commencement from
 my program. My main object in staying
 to Commencement was to see Blanche
 and as she is coming to Montour
 this summer, I can, I suppose, give

up a few days with her here, tho I
do hate to miss baccalaureate service,
etc. Oh say, I don't know what to
do! Please give me some advice.

I If I stay to Commencement and go to
T. D. in June, I won't see you folks for two
whole weeks longer, but on the other hand
when I do get home, I'm there to stay.

II If I don't accept this job at T. D. I am
out \$20.00 and some experience that
will be mighty valuable, also a chance to
make good and to gain self-confidence

III If I leave here the 10th or 11th, I have
a week at home before going to T. D. but
see Blanche for only a couple of days and
fifty other people leaving her at the
same time. And then I've looked forward
to her coming back so long that I kind
of hate to give up the idea.

Now isn't that a predicament to
make a lawyer muddled. I am sure

4.

I am hopelessly at sea, and am relying
on you folks to help me out.

Well, I must get to bed. Have been
nominated by Student Government
together with three other 1917ers as one
of the possible junior members of Joint
Council. Two out of the four are to be
elected next week. This Council, made
up of several representatives from each
class meets together with certain
faculty members and discusses and
decides questions of non-academic
interest. I would like the work but
feel that I have my share of such
things in being on the Executive Board.

Please help me out about T.C. Even tho
I shouldn't be able to go, I am mighty
pleased that Miss P. asked me.
Love, Eleanor.